

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as instructed in the marked-up version of the Listing of Claims presented below. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Amended) An apparatus for packaging a media disc into a case, the case having a housing to which a lid is coupled for movement between an open and a closed position, the apparatus comprising:

a conveyor moveable to convey the case along a feed path;

an inclined surface positioned to contact and generate initial separation between the lid and the housing of the case on the conveyor by relative movement between the conveyor and the inclined surface;

an arm positioned along the feed path for inserting the media disc into the case in the open position of the case; and

a roll rotatably supported to contact the case along the feed path, the roll pressing the case towards the closed position.

2. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inclined surface is a surface of a wedge.

3. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the wedge has a tip positioned to contact the case on the conveyor for separating the lid from the housing.

4. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conveyor comprises a rotary table.
5. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the rotary table further comprises an index ring coupled to the table to incrementally move the cases along the feed path.
6. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a user-manipulatable actuator coupled to the conveyor for hand-operation of the conveyor.
7. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inclined surface is a surface of a wedge positioned to open the case via relative movement of the wedge and case.
8. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a case receptacle positioned adjacent to the feed path and adapted to hold a plurality of cases.
9. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the conveyor is positioned to receive a case from the case receptacle.
10. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conveyor is a first conveyor, the apparatus further comprising a second conveyor adjacent to the inclined surface and positioned to transport cases to the first conveyor.
11. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a case receptacle positioned adjacent to the feed path and adapted to hold a plurality of cases.
12. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the second conveyor is positioned to receive cases from the case receptacle.

13. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one rail positioned along the feed path to hold the lid of the case in an open position until the media disc is placed in the case.
14. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one guide rail positioned along the feed path to at least assist in moving the lid of the case toward a closed position.
15. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a media disc receptacle positioned along the feed path adjacent to the arm.
16. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a region along the feed path in which loaded cases are removed from the conveyor after closure of the loaded cases.
17. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the conveyor has an aperture through which loaded cases are removed from the conveyor.
18. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one additional arm along the feed path, the arm being movable to insert at least one additional item into the case.
19. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising recesses in the conveyor, the recesses adapted to hold the cases.

20. (Amended) An apparatus for packaging a media disc into a case, the case having a housing to which a lid is coupled for movement between an open and a closed position, the apparatus comprising:

a conveyor moveable to convey the case along a feed path;

an inclined surface positioned to contact and open the case ~~on the conveyor~~ by a single continuous relative movement motion between the ~~conveyor case~~ and the inclined surface, the single continuous relative motion generating initial contact between the inclined surface and the case and separation between the lid and the housing of the case;

an arm positioned along the feed path for inserting the media disc into the case in the open position of the case; and

a guide rail positioned along the feed path, the guide rail assisting to control the position of the lid relative to the housing.

21. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the inclined surface is a surface of a wedge against which the case is forced on the conveyor.

22. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the wedge has a tip positioned to contact and separate the lid from the housing by the single continuous relative movement motion between the conveyor and the inclined surface.

23. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the conveyor comprises a rotary table.

24. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the rotary table further comprises an index ring coupled to the table to incrementally move the cases along the feed path.

25. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a user-manipulatable actuator coupled to the conveyor for hand-operation of the conveyor.

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26. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a case receptacle positioned adjacent to the feed path and adapted to hold a plurality of cases.

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27. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the conveyor is positioned to receive cases from the case receptacle.

28. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the conveyor is a first conveyor, the apparatus further comprising a second conveyor positioned to transport the case from the inclined surface to the arm.

29. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a case receptacle positioned adjacent the feed path and adapted to hold a plurality of cases.

30. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the first conveyor is positioned to remove a case from the case receptacle.

31. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising at least one guide rail located along the feed path, the at least one guide rail positioned to hold the lid of the case in an open position until the media disc is placed in the case.

32. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the at least one guide rail is positioned along the feed path to at least assist in rotation of the lid of the case toward a closed position.

33. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a media disc receptacle positioned along the feed path adjacent to the arm.

34. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 33, wherein the media disc receptacle further comprises a second conveyor positioned to supply the media discs to the arm.

35. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a region along the feed path for removing loaded cases from the conveyor after the loaded cases have been closed.

36. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the conveyor has an aperture through which the loaded cases can be removed.

37. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising at least one additional arm along the feed path for inserting additional items into the case.

38. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, further comprising recesses in the conveyor adapted to hold the cases.

39. (Amended) An apparatus for opening a media disc case, the case having a housing to which a lid is coupled for movement between an open and a closed position, the apparatus comprising:

a conveyor; and

an inclined surface positioned to contact the case, generate initial separation between the lid and the housing of the case, and open the case on the conveyor all by a single type of continuous relative movement between the conveyor and the inclined surface;

wherein at least one of the conveyor and the inclined surface is moveable relative to the other.

40. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 39, wherein the inclined surface is a surface of a wedge.

41. – 58. (Withdrawn)

59. (New) An apparatus for opening a media disc case, the case having a housing to which a lid is coupled for movement between an open and a closed position, the apparatus comprising:

a conveyor; and

an inclined surface positioned adjacent the conveyor and adapted to generate initial separation between the lid and the housing by relative movement between the case and the inclined surface, wherein the relative movement to generate initial separation is limited to linear movement.

60. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 59, wherein the inclined surface is a surface of a wedge.